

## Chairman, PNASF Speaks



*Agriculture is both a force for change and a product of change, our wiseman said. Agriculture is receptive to change and responds appreciably to mechanism of change in terms of adoption of appropriate technologies, trade, policies, investments and management.*

*In the developing world, agriculture, women and poverty are interlinked deeply which are inseparable at least during this millennium. Poverty is both cause and an effect of food insecurity and continues to be a major challenge to about 75 percent of the poor in the developing world.*

*On a global scale, women produce more than half of all the food that is grown. In Asia, they provide 50 to 90 percent of the labour force required in rice cultivation. In Sub – Saharan Africa, they produce 80 percent of the basic foods. In the developing world, rural women provide most of the labour for farming, from soil preparation to harvest and from calving to milking of cattle. After the harvest, they are almost entirely responsible for storage, handling, stocking, processing and marketing. FAO reports that despite of their contributions to food security, women tend to be invisible actors in development and their work is not recorded in statistics.*

*During the World Food Summit (1996), about 180 participating governments made commitments on the following;*

- *Support and implement commitments made at the Fourth World Conference on Women, that a gender perspective is mainstreamed in all policies;*
- *Promote women's full and equal participation in the economy including secure and equal access to and control over credit, land and water;*
- *Ensure that institutions provide equal access for women;*
- *Provide equal gender opportunities for education and training in food production, processing and marketing;*
- *Tailor extension and technical services to women producers and increase the number of women advisors and agents;*
- *Improve the collection, dissemination and use of gender – disaggregated data (which distinguishes between the males and females);*
- *Focus research efforts on the division of labour and on income access and control within the household;*
- *Gather information on women's traditional knowledge and skills in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and natural resources management;*

*More than 70 percent of the world's 1,300 million poor people are women and girls. Ironically throughout the life, women and girls have fewer opportunities for education and training than men. In many cultures men eat first and most, despite the fact that women in the developing world frequently have heavier workload. Studies have shown that increasing education and skills of women, raises family income, nutrition level and reduces infant death rates.*

*It is well recognized that the role of women in agriculture and food security can no longer be ignored if political, social and economic environment is to be improved.*

*Some of the small women development programmes and projects, with a focus on self – income generation around the developing world, has proven quite*

*successful in raising the level of livelihood security among rural women and families. In Bangladesh, one NGO assisted 1,926 women farmers with the USD 60,000.00 in credit which increased the chicken production from 2.5 million chicks (1991) to 6 million (1996). In Mali, FAO assisted women of 50 villages by establishing credit for buying seed, fertilize, water pump and mills. During my work with the field programme of the FAO, several of small projects on income generation of poor women in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Thailand, China, Philippines, Nigeria, Yemen dealing with vegetable and flower growing, mushroom growing, poultry, sheep, cattle, food preservation, fishing, toy making, sewing clothes etc, have produced successful results to be repeated elsewhere.*

*Encouraging women with sensitized programmes and empowering them with responsibilities and accountabilities in the process of sustainable development has proved world wide that women folk play a vital role as a change agent towards sustainable development. Experience gained and lessons learnt in implementing various such projects in the past prompted PNASF to diversify its approach and accordingly in order to augment food and nutrition security as well as to promote activities on the development of poor rural women, PNASF took an initiative to launch a project on 'Promotion of Rural Women Self Help Group through Dairy Development (PNASF/SUN/WD-SHG/2005)' as I. D. Halli in Madhugiri taluk of Karnataka. The selected beneficiaries who are poor and illiterate, have been provided each with milking cow with calf, vegetable and fruit waste feed, veterinary assistance and market outlet with local cooperative society. They will have training in dairy production skills and Self Help Group formation and it is envisaged that they would sustain themselves after the project period is over in three years.*

*Prem Nath*  
 (Prem Nath)

## EVENTS

### Launching of the project 'Promotion of Rural Women Self Help Group Through Dairy Development' (PNASF/SUN/WD-SHG/2005)

Focusing on providing livelihood security in disadvantaged areas covering both economic growth and human development in terms of establishing and expanding the sources of employment and income within and allied to agricultural sector / rural non – farm sector, a new project on "Promotion of Rural Women Self Help Group Through Dairy Development" was launched by PNASF, Bangalore on March 31, 2007 at Itaka Dibbana Halli (I. D. Halli) village in Madhugiri taluka of Tumkur district.

# EVENTS

The launching ceremony was graced by Justice V. S. Malimath, former Chief Justice of Karnataka and Kerala High Courts and former Chairman, Human Rights Commission, Government of India as Chief Guest and Dr. G. Parameshwar, former Minister of Higher Education and presently sitting MLA, Madhugiri Constituency, Dr. P. V. Shenoi, former Secretary of Agriculture, Government of India, Shri Abhay Prakash, former Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commission, Government of Karnataka as Guests of Honour. The other dignitaries present on the occasion were the Thakur Uday Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, M/s. Namdhari Seeds Private Limited, Bangalore, Smt Shyamla Nath, Trustee, PNASF, Dr. O. P. Dutta, Senior Technical Advisor, PNASF, Bangalore, Dr. P.A. Sarma, Animal Husbandary Advisor, Shri Vinod. K. Huria, Senior Scientist CFTRI, Mysore, Dr. B. S. Prabhakar, Principle Scientist, IIHR, Bangalore. Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, hosted the ceremony on behalf of PNASF, Bangalore with Shri P. B. Gaddagimath and Dr. M. J. Chandre Gowda as Masters of ceremony. Dr. Prem Nath Chairman PNASF, Bangalore delivered keynote address and said that targeting the rural women, the project aims at imparting knowledge on simple and inexpensive ways of income generation through rearing milch cattle with the micro finance support from the PNASF, Bangalore and further supporting the project till it becomes self sustainable.



The Chief Guest and the Guests of Honour inaugurating the ceremony

Dr. O.P. Dutta, Senior Technical Advisor, the architect of this project briefed about the objectives, mode of implementing, project beneficiaries and other partners involved in the project.



A view of the gathering

The Chief Guest and the Guests of Honour who addressed the gathering on the occasion appreciated the efforts of PNASF, Bangalore towards the cause of providing food and nutritional security and the commitment of Dr. Prem Nath in achieving the objectives through various projects and called upon the project beneficiaries and villagers to make best use of this project and utilize the project facilities and activities to achieve the objective of women development.

Each of the ten project beneficiary women of I. D. Halli was presented with a (a) bond between PNASF and Beneficiary to receive free cow with calf and to maintain it appropriately for their benefit within the Self Help Group guideline, and (b) one healthy milching cow with calf by the PNASF.



a: Smt. Shyamla Nath presenting the bond to a beneficiary.  
b,c,d: The beneficiaries being presented with a cow and calf

The Chief Guest and Guests of Honour were felicitated with garland, plaque/momento, and shawls by Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman and Smt. Shyamla Nath, Member Trustee of the PNASF.



The Chief Guest, the Guests of Honour, other dignitaries being felicitated by Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman and Smt. Shyamla Nath, Trustee of PNASF, Bangalore on the occasion

About 1000 villagers, men and women, farmers, community workers, local government officials and the mass media representatives participated in the function. The local newspapers covered the event widely. The TV channels broadcasted the news on Doordarshan, ETV Kannada and TV 9.

The Keynote address by the Chairman, PNASF on this occasion is reproduced below.

## Key Notea Address by Dr. Prem Nath

Honorable Justice. V.S. Malimath, Dr. G. Parameshwar, Dr. P.V. Shenoi, Shri .Abhay Prakash, Shri. Uday Singh, Dr. O. P. Dutta, Ms. Shyamla Nath,

Our Fellow Scientists and Professionals, Ladies and Gentlemen, Our Villagers and Farmers.

On behalf of the Dr.Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation, I consider it a great privilege and honor to speak to you this morning on the occasion of the launching of the project 'Promotion of Rural Women Self Help Group Through Dairy Development'.

# EVENTS

On a global scale, women produce more than half of all the food that is grown (FAO). Most of the farmers in India are women. India is well recognized as the country of farms and farmers-small and large, in millions. However, the number of small farms much exceeds that of the large ones. On the whole about 70% of the Indian people are engaged in agriculture and the women contribute to about 60% of farm labour force assisting in seeding to harvesting and in rearing cows to grazing and milking.

The rural population of women with much involvement in domestic and farm live, still strive hard for the attainment of the livelihood security. This becomes more challenging when the mother nature limits them with relatively less rainfall and less fertile soil, like that of I. D. Halli.



In a modest attempt to overcome this challenge of livelihood, the PNASF has come up with the present project with three-pronged approach: (a) to raise the living standard of the rural women,(b) to energize the spirit of the self-confidence and income generation, and (c) to introduce simple improved farm technology of raising dairy cattle in order to achieve these two missions.

I must mention here that the architect of this project is our Senior Technical Advisor Dr. O.P.Dutta who conceived this project and shared with our colleagues.

The selected unemployed rural women beneficiaries of I.D.Halli will receive improved breed cows with feed concentrate and cow shed from the PNASF; green waste as fodder through the kind assistance of M/s. Namdhari Fresh Agro Pvt. Ltd., I.D.Halli ; periodical examination of cows with the assistance of veterinary and other officials; and training on maintenance of cattle and organization of Self Help Group by the Project Implementation Team.

It is envisaged that this pilot project will result in the formation of a sound Self Help Group of the women beneficiaries who will not only achieve the objectives of the project as laid out for their own benefits but also enthuse others to join the group which will have multiplier effect on the community and surrounding villages of Madhugiri taluk.

At this stage I must thank Dr. Sundari Velayudhan of California who is a strong supporter of women development and major donor of this project for which we are very appreciative and thankful.

The collaboration and strong support of Mr. Uday Singh of M/s. Namdhari Fresh Agro Pvt.Ltd, in providing the green waste as fodder,

in the assistance of his staff in extending support in the implementation of this project and in permitting this programme to happen today at their campus is highly appreciated and valued. The expression of support of the I.D.Halli Milk Co-operative Society in buying the milk is duly acknowledged.

While thanking profusely our Senior Advisers of PNASF, Dr. O.P.Dutta, Mr. P.B. Gaddgimath, Mr. Vinod K. Huria, Dr. M. J. Chandre Gowda, Dr. B. S. Prabhakar, Dr. P. A. Sarma and others in formulating this project, on behalf of the PNASF I extend my sincere thanks to NAFPL officials Mr.Chandreshkar and his team for assistance in preparation of the launching programme.

I wish to extend my grateful thanks to Justice Mr. V.S. Malimath, Dr. G. Parameshwar, Dr. P.V. Shenoi, and Mr. Abhay Prakash, Dr. O. P. Dutta, and Ms. Shyamla Nath who have personally encouraged me with great understanding in undertaking this project.

Last but not the least I wish to thank the beneficiaries and the villagers for their willingness to participate and to extend whole hearted support to this project.

Thanks to you all for your august presence.



Few News clippings

## PNASF Awarded Rashtriya Sanman Award

During the National seminar on "Individual Contribution to National Growth" held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2007 at Mumbai, Ravindra Natya Mandir, P. L. Deshpande Kala Academy, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 25 organized jointly by the Council for Economic Growth and Research (CEGR), National Education and Human Resource Development Organization (NEHRDO), Centre for Educational Development and Research (CEDR), and Economic Growth Association of India (EGAI), Dr. Prem Nath, Chairman, PNASF was invited and was presented **Rashtriya Sanman Award**, for his outstanding contribution to the rural and urban communities in food and agriculture sector through Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF). The occasion was the National level joint seminar on " National Economic Growth through Individual Contribution"

The occasion was graced by the dignitaries in Mumbai including Prof. Daniel Lichten Whelner (NASA, USA), Mr. Dinesh Modi (Performist), Ms. Sharmila Raj (Cinema Actress), Mr. Manmauji (Cinema actor), Prof. Gleria Lichten Whelner (USA), Ms. Shabana Sultan (Cinema actress) Dr. Rohidas Vaghmare (Heart specialist), Amdar P. V. Mehta, Mr. Raj Kumar (Hindustan Prachar Sabha) and about 800 selected participants from different states of India. The awardees

## EVENTS / RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT/ INTERNAL CO-OPERATION



Shri Raj Kumar, Hidustan Prachar Shabha presenting the Rashtriya Sanman Award to Dr. Prem Nath

consisted from different sectors such as education, industries, community development, food and agriculture, and others.

The PNASF is appreciative of this national award, by the organizers in encouraging individuals and organizations towards augmenting national economic growth in various sectors including food and agriculture

### NEW TAC Member

The Board of Trustees of the PNASF has been pleased to approve the nomination of Dr. K.R.M. Swamy, former Head of the Division of Vegetable Crops of the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research as the new member of the Technical Advisory Council. The PNASF congratulates and welcomes Dr. Swamy as esteemed member of our technical team.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

### PNASF/MHPS/2005 – Biological Science and Nutrition Project

The technical team of the project has been strengthened with the addition of Dr. Kamal G. Nath, Professor of Food and Nutrition and Dr. D.P. Kumar, Professor of Horticulture, University Agricultural Sciences, Hebbal as new members. The PNASF acknowledges and appreciates their voluntary assistance. The implementation team welcomes the addition of two PNASF fellows on horticulture and nutrition. While Ph.D. Scholar Mr. Manjunath S. Patil is already a member in horticulture, another Ph.D. Scholar on nutrition is awaited.

### Grant by Canara Bank, Bangalore

In order to support the ongoing project – Biological Science and Nutrition (PNASF/MHPS/2005) for the students of the Government Model Higher Primary School (GMHPS), Geddalhalli, Bangalore, the authorities of the Canara Bank have approved of a grant of Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only). The Board of Trustees of the PNASF is highly appreciative of this contribution towards the education and nutrition security of the school children.

## INTERNAL CO-OPERATION

### Linkage

On the invitation of Dr, C.H. Bonte-Friedheim, former Asstt. Director General of FAO, former Director General of ISNAR and Member, Board of Syngenta Foundation worldwide, Dr. Prem Nath participated in the working dinner held on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2007 in

Orchid Eco Hotel, Mumbai hosted by the Syngenta Foundation. The mission of the team consisting of seven internal and external members namely Dr. Andrew Bennett, Executive Director of Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, Dr. Christian Bonte-Friedheim, Board Member, Syngenta, Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, Mr. Khosla S.K., Vice President, PR & D, Syngenta India Limited, Mumbai, Dr. Partha Dasgupta, Advisor, Syngenta India Limited, Kolkata, was to visit the agricultural development project sites in Maharashtra assisted by the Foundation. In the original travel plan, the team was to visit Karnataka also which did not happen.



Dr. C. H. Bonte-Freidheim with Dr. Prem Nath

A detailed discussion was held around the identification of beneficiaries, priority issues to be addressed, mechanism of project implementation and identification of host partner organizations/ institutions.

A possible collaboration between Syngenta and PNASF would be useful in achieving the common goal of uplifting small farmers.

### Second International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2008)

In continuation of our previous communication, the VEGINET and PNASF are pleased to announce that the host institutions – EMBRAPA and Municipality of Fortaleza in Brazil have confirmed the date of the Second International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2008) from **Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008** in Fortaleza, Brazil.

The Conference Organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome; Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET), Bangalore; World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva; EMBRAPA, Brazil; and Municipality of Fortaleza, Brazil and in partnership with PNASF, ISHS, ISTH, ABH, GlobalHort, AVRDC has the following deadlines;

- ❖ Date of receiving abstracts- October 15, 2007
- ❖ Date of Acceptance/ Non-Acceptance December 15, 2007.
- ❖ Date of registration/accommodation/ exhibition/technical form January 31, 2008.
- ❖ Date of confirmation of flights- February 15, 2008.

### Thematic subject areas

1. Biodiversities
2. Genetics, Plant Breeding and Biotechnology
3. Production Technology, Organic Production
4. Protection Technology
5. Post-harvest Physiology and Technology
6. Hybrid Seed Production

7. Vegetables and Nutrition
8. Vegetables and Health
9. Under-utilized Vegetables
10. Supply chain, Marketing and Technology Transfer
11. Country Development Policies and Programmes
12. Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries

## The Conference Activities

It will include the following;

1. Lead papers by invited speakers
2. Oral presentations on Theme Areas
3. Poster presentations on Theme Areas
4. Exhibition
5. Professional Tours
6. Memorial Lectures
7. Social Events

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The details of the conference will be made available in the second announcement of the ICV-2008 to be published very shortly and also made available on the Website [www.pnasf.org](http://www.pnasf.org)

## VEGINET CHAPTER IN USA

On the recommendation of the members of the Nomination committee of the VEGINET, a new chapter of the VEGINET was opened in the United States of America. In order to increase membership and to promote linkage and activities among the scientists in the USA. Dr. Usha Palaniswamy, the life-member, was appointed as the focal point. This would augment the networking and encourage scientists/professors to participate particularly in the upcoming International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2008) to be held in Fortaleza, Brazil during April 14-18, 2008.

## SOCIAL COMMITMENT

### ■ GOLD MEDAL PNASF/UAS/2001

The PNASF Gold medal was awarded to the Ph.D student Ms. M.A. Vennila for highest grade point average at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore. The award was presented during the University's 41<sup>st</sup> Convocation held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

### ■ SEMINAR SUPPORT

Promotion of science through support and participation in the conferences/seminars/ symposia, has been one of the mandates of PNASF. The foundation has been making small contributions to support organization of such events from time to time. Recently the foundation contributed a sum of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand) only to the Association for Advancement of Pest Management in Horticultural Ecosystems (AAPMHE), Bangalore to organize the '3<sup>rd</sup> National Symposium on Plant Protection in Horticultural Crops: Emerging Trends and Challenges' held during March 7 -9, 2007 at the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hesaraghatta, Bangalore.

## INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

### PUBLICATIONS

- ✿ The article entitled 'Nutrition Security for the Children' by Dr. Prem Nath was published in the magazine PLANT HORTI TECH, Bangalore, February – April 2007, Vol. 7 No. 2, Page 26.

### ASHS 2007

- ✿ The abstract of the paper entitled 'USDA/CSREES International Science and Education (ISE) Competitive Grants Program-2006 Funding to Establish Strong Network for Vegetable Improvement - Vegetable Science International Network (VEGINET)-USA Chapter' was accepted (Abstract No. 3553) for presentation at the Annual Conference of the American Society of Horticulture Science (ASHS 2007) to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 in Scottsdale, Arizona. The paper is authored by Dr. Usha Palaniswamy and Dr. Prem Nath and will be presented in the conference by Dr. Usha Palaniswamy.

### PNASF Visitors

During the period under report, PNASF held meetings with some faculty/head of different organizations, to discuss various issues on agriculture and its allied subjects.

The expression of the visitors as reflected in the visitors book of PNASF is reproduced below;

- ✿ I had a good discussion with Dr. Prem Nath regarding the orientation of research required for the present day. We discussed a lot about the glut of fruits/flowers in the markets and what best IIHR can do it for developing the varieties. – *Dr. Chenna Reddy Ashwath, Sr. scientist, Division of Ornamental Crops, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bangalore*
- ✿ I am associated with the PNASF since last three years and I am very much delighted and benefited from the association for their concern for urban school children for improvement of their nutritional status. I am deeply grateful to the foundation for providing the fellowship to our post graduate students to carry out doctoral studies. It is very good experience for me to talk, share ideas and visions of Dr. Prem Nath for the

# INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

development of horticulture in general food and nutrition security in particular.

I would like to associate myself in all the programmes of the foundation and I wish this foundation will grow for higher heights and help the society. All my best wishes. –  
*Dr. D. P. Kumar, Professor of Horticulture, Department of Horticulture, GKVK, UAS, Bangalore*

## Publications on shelves

Description	India (In Rs.)	Foreign (In US \$)
Book – Food Security and Vegetables- A Global Perspective (Pages:437) 2004	200.00 + postage extra - PB type	25.00 including postage for both PB and HB type
ICV-2002 Proceedings – CD (Pages:931) 2003	250.00+ postage extra – HB type	10.00 including foreign postage
VEGINET Booklet (Pages: 22) 2003	Postage only	Postage only
ICV-2002 Abstract Book- (Pages:445) 2002	200.00 including inland postage	25.00 including foreign postage
ICV -2002 Souvenir (Pages:124) 2002	100.00 including inland postage	15.00 including foreign postage
PNASF NEWS Volume I - 6 issues	Free of charge	Free of charge

- 35% discount given to PNASF and VEGINET members, Professors, Students and Libraries.

## How to order?

Making online order to [pnasf@vsnl.net](mailto:pnasf@vsnl.net) and sending Bank Demand Draft or Cheque in favour of Dr. Prem Nath Agricultural Science Foundation, A/C No.: 37688, payable at Canara Bank, Vyalikaval, Bangalore – 560 003, India.

## Publication in press

Vegetables-Production and Utilization published by Dr. Prem Nath, Agricultural Science Foundation (PNASF), Bangalore, India. (350 +xvi pages)

## Plans on hand

While the ongoing activities will continue, the PNASF proposes to undertake new programmes and activities;

- Participation in conferences
  - o Assist in the preparation of the Second International Conference on Vegetables (ICV-2008) scheduled April 14-18, 2008 in Fortaleza, Brazil.
  - o Host the VEGINET Secretariat
  - o Participate in upcoming national and international conferences
- Awards /grants to university students and researchers to continue
- Collaborate with the national and international institutions/associations in the area of food and nutrition security etc.,
- Release of the new book entitled 'Vegetables – Production and Utilization'
- Participation of PNASF in Annual Conference of American Society of Horticultural Science 2007 (ASHS 2007) at Arizona, USA during July, 2007.

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Awards/Scholarships

PNASF encourages universities/institutions to institute PNASF Medal Awards for outstanding post-graduate students/young scientists working on research problems augmenting food and nutrition security and invites them to support these activities through funds.

### Field projects

PNASF invites societies/associations/NGOs interested in implementing small rural community projects on self help income generation augmenting food security, for any assistance.



**Website :** *The detailed activities of the PNASF are accessible on [www.pnasf.org](http://www.pnasf.org)*

### Publications

The PNASF publications are available on price with the Central Secretariat, PNASF. Both perfect bound and hardbound copies of the latest publication 'Food Security and Vegetables - A Global Perspective' are available on sale. Order also be placed through the website [www.pnasf.org](http://www.pnasf.org)

### Contribution/Membership

Registration/membership/contribution either to PNASF or to VEGINET or to both may be obtained by completing the attached form and by paying the requisite fee.

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### Central Secretariat

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# REGISTRATION FORM

## VEGETABLE SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

(VEGINET)

### REGISTRATION FORM

Please return this form to,

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#### Area of Interest:

Student projects and training opportunities

as a post-graduate.

as an employee

Research programme

Small field projects

Institutional partnership / collaboration

Educational or research conferences, workshops, expert consultations etc.

Technical publications

Others, Specify

On the PNASF mailing list

#### Benefits:

- Subsidy in participation in workshops, seminars, conferences.

- Receive PNASF Newsletter.

- Subsidy in PNASF Publications

- Linkage to National and International Institutions

- Contribution to food security Programme and Projects.

#### Contribution:

Ordinary / Annual : Rs. 100/- or more.  
USD 100/- or more.

Life Long : Rs. 1,000/- or more  
USD 1,000/- or more

Payment Enclosed Rs.

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Date :

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